

FUTURE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

There are several conclusions that can be drawn in looking at the future economy of the planning area. There is, of course, no reasonable mathematical means of projecting this future picture as with the numbers relating to population, but these various indicators previously discussed can give some insight for use in looking ahead.

Sources of employment, for example, are plentiful. Unlike some towns in other parts of the state that are much larger, Maiden is fortunate in that new industrial operations have located here and older operations have experienced rapid expansion. The factor of specialization in a few types of industry is quite evident, however, as was pointed out earlier. The leaders of Maiden and its citizenry should do what they can to encourage diversification in the future, thus heading off a major setback for the entire community if a regional or national slack period should result in the industries that now virtually support the area.

It was noted too that labor is tending to lean toward a "tight" situation. Obviously, workers can be hired or industry would not continue to expand here, but here again efforts can be applied that will help to keep the labor force from getting smaller. Young people can be encouraged to stay in the area through the construction of sound, attractive homes and pleasant neighborhoods, for example. And training programs should not be overlooked, in order to continue to equip potential workers with the knowledge needed in the modern factories.